

DELAWARE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD

The Townsend Building
401 Federal Street, Suite 2
Dover, Delaware 19901

Meeting Minutes

The Department of Education
The Cabinet Room

April 11, 2013
5:15 P.M.

Members Present: Michael Casson, Joanne Christian, Samtra Devard, Stephanie DeWitt, Cristy Greaves, Chris Kenton, David Kohan, Byron Murphy, Wendy Murray, Mary Pinkston, Stephanie Smith, and Jacqueline Wisnauskas.

Members Absent: Karen Gordon, Whitney Price, and Kathleen Thomas.

Others Present: Charlie Michels, PSB Executive Director; Paula Fontello, Deputy Attorney General; John Sell, 2013 Delaware Teacher of the Year; Jon Neubauer, Education Associate TLEU Educator Effectiveness; Donna Mitchell, RTTT Deputy Officer TLEU Professional Development; Deb Stevens, DSEA; Jeff Visalli, CRSD Kimberly Rodriguez, Secretary to Curriculum Development; and Michelle Kriss, Secretary to PSB.

I. Opening

Call to Order: Dr. Greaves, Professional Standards Board Vice Chair, called the meeting to Order at 5:20 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Mr. Kohan and seconded by Ms. Wisnauskas to approve the April 11, 2013 Agenda. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of March 7, 2013: A motion was made by Mr. Kenton and seconded by Ms. Wisnauskas to approve the PSB Minutes of March 7, 2013. . The Chair, upon noting a less than unanimous verbal response, requested a Roll Call vote:

Joanne Christian	Yes
Samtra Devard	Yes
Stephanie DeWitt	Yes
Christy Greaves	Yes
Chris Kenton	Yes
David Kohan	Yes
Byron Murphy	Abstain
Wendy Murray	Yes
Mary Pinkston	Yes
Stephanie Smith	Abstain
Jacqueline Wisnauskas	Yes

The motion failed. (9 Yes and 2 Abstain)

II. **Public Comment**

None.

III. **Executive Director's Report**

- Mr. Michels welcomed two new PSB members: Dr. Stephanie Smith, the current Human Resources Director for Seaford School District and Byron Murphy, the current principal at Dickenson High School, Red Clay Consolidated School District. Mr. Michels noted that Mr. Murphy was also the 2013 Delaware High School Principal of the Year. The remaining PSB members then introduced themselves.
- Mr. Michels indicated that the ***April 1, 2013 PSB Quarterly Report*** was located in each members' folders.
- Mr. Michels participated in a webinar by ETS on March 20, 2013. The webinar was regarding their new Pre-Service Portfolio. ETS would like Delaware to provide participants on the National Advisory Committee which will be held 3 days each at the end of April and in mid-August. Upon completion of the work, ETS would also like Delaware to participate in the Pilot.
- Mr. Michels attended the Delaware Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (DACTE) meeting on March 21, 2013 with Delaware's ETS Client Representative, Dr. Cathy Owens-Oliver.
- Mr. Michels participated in the DPAS II Review Committee meeting on March 26, 2013.
- Mr. Michels is working with the DDOE's Christopher Ruszkowski and the U.S. Department of Education on the Regulation 1595's application for Certification Programs for Leaders in Education.. There are some Delaware Institutions of Higher Education clamoring for the application.
- Mr. Michel worked with the DSEA ***ACTION*** editor and subsequently placed an article in the newsletter relative to the Administrator certification regulations' changes.
- Mr. Michels participated in a meeting sponsored by the Governor's Advisory Council of Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) regarding adapted physical education.
- Mr. Michels asked PSB members to consider PSB meeting dates for 2013-2014. He said this will be an Action Item during the May 2, 2013 PSB meeting.
- Mr. Michels said he participated with Innovative Schools in a full day of interviews with Delaware Leadership Project (DLP) candidates on March 11, 2013.
- Mr. Michels participated in the DDOE Teacher and Administrator Quality Development Quarterly Meeting on April 10, 2013 and provided the usual PSB update.
- Mr. Michels indicated that the results of the TELL Delaware survey were released earlier in the day with the appropriate Media Release. Results can be viewed at the telledelaware.org webpage. All licensed educators in the State of Delaware were given the opportunity to fill out the anonymous survey online.

IV. **DOE Report**

Dr. Greaves introduced Mr. John Sell, the 2013 Delaware Teacher of the Year (“TOY”). Mr. Sell currently teaches English Language Arts at Sussex Technical High School. Mr. Sell spoke to the PSB about his philosophy, his accomplishments at Sussex Tech and the difference he feels it has made with his students. Mr. Sell shared some recent TOY experiences both within and without the First State.

V. **Action Items**

A. 1502 Professional Growth Salary Increments

Mr. Michels said a final draft of changes within Regulation **1502** was before the Board for Publication. Mr. Michels then discussed the changes within **1502** and the inequity of salary increment awards for certain educators based upon the methods by which Institutions of Higher Education award successful completion of Specialist Degree Programs: either within or subsequent to the awarding of the Masters Degree. After further discussion concerning exacting language within the regulation, a motion was made by Mr. Kenton and seconded by Mr. Kohan to publish **1502 Professional Growth Salary Increments** as amended. The motion carried.

B. Praxis II: 5031 Elementary Education Multiple Subjects

Mr. Michels referred the PSB to the handout in their folders. The Board discussed test **5031** which requires an elementary teacher candidate to meet cut scores for each of the four academic area subtests. He noted and suggested the ETS recommended cut scores for each area be the approved DE scores. After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Kenton and seconded by Ms. Murray for the approval of **Praxis II test 5031 Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects** to be effective September 1, 2013 with cut scores for the following subtests to be:

- Reading and Language Arts – 165 on a 100 to 200 scale
- Mathematics – 164 on a 100 to 200 scale
- Social Studies – 155 on a 100 to 200 scale
- Science – 159 on a 100 to 200 scale

The current Delaware approved Praxis test II **0014/5014 Elementary Education: Content Knowledge** with a cut score of 151 on a 100 to 200 scale shall remain effective for Elementary Teacher certification if taken prior to December 31, 2013.

The motion carried.

C. Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators: 5712, 5722, 5732

Mr. Michels indicated that this was a new assessment aligned with the Common Core and asked the Board to consider approving the new tests: **5712, 5722** and **5732**. Mr. Michels noted the ETS recommended cut scores for each test are recommended for approved Delaware scores, with an effective date for these tests suggested to be September 1, 2013. In addition, the Praxis I current tests would continue to be allowed for Initial Licensure through May 31, 2014. It was noted

that these changes would need to be incorporated into regulation **1510 Issuance of Initial License**. After further discussion, a motion was made by Ms. DeWitt and seconded by Mr. Kenton for the approval of the **Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators** to be effective September 1, 2013 with cut scores for the following tests to be:

- Reading test 5712 – a score of 156 on a 100 to 200 scale
- Writing test 5722 – a score of 162 on a 100 to 200 scale
- Mathematics test 5732 – a score of 150 on a 100 to 200 scale

The current Delaware approved Praxis I (PPST) series of tests with cut scores on a 100 to 200 scale for the following: Reading 175; Writing 173; and Mathematics 174, shall remain effective for Licensure if taken prior to May 31, 2014.

The motion carried. Ms. Fontello clarified that the current Praxis I test and scores are set forth in Regulation **1510** and the changes will need to be incorporated into the regulation and proceed through the normal APA process including publication in the Register of Regulations prior to implementation of the new test and scores. Regulation **1510** is currently in the amendment process.

D. PSB FOIA Procedures

No action was taken by the Board on this Action item and the matter is deferred to a future meeting.

VI. Discussion

A. PSB Legislative Agenda

Mr. Michels gave an update of the PSB Legislative Agenda. Mr. Michels said he had worked with Ms. Fontello and had sent over to Senator Sokola the required drafts of legislation to amend Delaware code relative to Initial Licensure. He has been working with Senator Sokola and will continue to do so once the General Assembly reconvenes after the Easter Recess.

B. 1510 Issuance of Initial License

Mr. Michels introduced and discussed the considerably amended regulation **1510**. He said some of the amends reflect changes as requested by the DOE, proposed changes in Delaware Code, new test specifics, and a variety of formatting.

C. PSB ad hoc Committee

Mr. Michels reported that the PSB ad hoc committee established for the purposes of hiring a new PSB Executive Director has met twice. Mr. Michels is working with the DDOE HR work group in facilitating this considerable process.

D. Praxis IIs for Future Consideration

Mr. Michels gave an update on ETS' Middle Level and Secondary Multi-State Standards Setting Studies (MSSSSs) for Mathematics and ELA. He said the current tests Delaware uses will be retired in late summer 2013, so DE approval of these

new Common Core-aligned tests is critical. Mr. Michels said he will have these items on the Agenda for Action during the May 2, 2013 PSB meeting.

VII. Presentation

A. Mentoring Program

Mr. Michels introduced Mr. Jon Neubauer, DDOE TLEU Education Associate for Educator Effectiveness. Handouts were distributed to the PSB: Supporting Our New Educators – The State’s Comprehensive Induction Program 2013, 2014 and Beyond. Mr. Neubauer reviewed the handout with the PSB. He explained the DDOE’s current Mentoring Program, the review of and subsequent plans for levels of accountability and support levels. Mr. Neubauer shared the current approach to providing support to our new teachers. He then shared a DDOE-proposed path forward. Mr. Neubauer then answered questions and concerns posed by the PSB.

VIII. PSB Standing Committees

A. Licensure and Certification Criteria

The Committee had not met. However, Mr. Michels will be scheduling a date for this committee to meet in May.

B. Professional Development and Associated Compensation

The Committee had not met.

IX. Other

None.

X. Public Comment

None.

XI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Devard and was seconded by Ms. Wisnauskas to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.